

REMARKS

Claims 13, 15 and 17 stand rejected 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Triceps. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, because the cited reference does not disclose (or suggest) subjecting a regeneration signal from the medium to an equalizing process including the convolution of $(k \cdot s \cdot D)$, where $k \geq 3$ and $s \geq 2$, as now described in claims 13, 15 and 17. These features are shown in Figs. 23 and 30 and their corresponding written description in the specification.

The Office Action states that the cited Triceps reference discloses the claimed features for subjecting a regeneration signal from the medium to an equalizing process, including the convolution of $(k \cdot s \cdot D)$, where “k is considered as 2 and s is considered as 1.” As now described, the claims recite that $k \geq 3$ and $s \geq 2$. In contrast, Triceps teaches that $k=2$ and $s=1$. For this reason, claims 13, 15 and 17 and their respective dependent claims 14, 16 and 18 are believed to be allowable over the cited reference.

Claims 14, 16 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Triceps in view of Ueno (US 5,995,545). Claims 14, 16 and 18 depend from claims 13, 15 and 17, and therefore, are allowable for the same reasons given with respect to their respective independent claims, and because of the additional features that they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

For the reasons given above, the Application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner should contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

If a Petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for an extension of time for response is required to make the attached response timely, it is hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for an extension of time for response in the above-identified application for the period required to make the attached response timely. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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